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DDE&T-1901-68

10 May 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

ADM-12.5

SUBJECT : Ad Hoc Requirements Panel

1. The meetings that we've had so far have been quite beneficial and revealing. If nothing else, they have revealed that there is a lack of communication between the substantive Offices, the collectors, and the R&Ders. The requirements problem, as everyone knows, has been with us for a long time and initially there was a general air of pessimism in the group that there could ever be a solution. Various members of the group referred to previous studies, previous groups and existing staffs that are supposed to be working on the requirements problem but somehow never seem to help at the working level.

2. The freedom of discussion which took place at these meetings, while not very productive in establishing requirements during the first several meetings, showed that not only researchers and developers had trouble obtaining up-to-date and valid requirements but that the collectors, (OSA, OSP, OEL), and the substantive Offices, (OSI and FMSAC), had difficulty establishing valid requirements and that lines of communication between the Offices were not working.

3. After much discussion, it was agreed that there is a definite need for establishing a standing requirements group within the DD/S&T which would meet regularly and close the requirements loop between the various Offices of the Directorate, i.e., the substantive Offices would establish certain requirements and pass them to the collectors who, in turn, would examine their operational assets and if they found they did not have the means for satisfying the requirements would then turn to the researchers and developers for ways of meeting the requirements. In the course of development, the R&Ders would coordinate with the collectors and, if need be, check back with them to the substantive Offices who originated the requirements.

4. I would like to suggest that the present membership of the ad hoc group be transferred to a standing committee and that it be chaired by Mr. [redacted]. This committee should periodically review all outstanding requirements, consider new requirements, and make recommendations to you on all those they feel necessary and worthwhile.

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